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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Gregory T. NOREN	§	Confirmation No.:	6516
Serial No.:	09/998,513	§	Group Art Unit:	2172
Filed:	11/30/2001	§	Examiner:	C. Chen
For:	Space Efficient Backup Technique In A Storage System	§	Docket No.:	200304405-1

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 31, 2005

Sir:

In response to the final Office action of January 11, 2005, please enter this Preliminary Amendment and corresponding Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.